

**Whitefish Revenue, Recreation, & Conservation Core Group**  
**Minutes**  
**July 28, 2010 - 3 PM, Glacier Bank**

Attendees:

DNRC CG members	Mike Collins	Steve Lorch	Brian Manning
FWP CG members	Dave Landstrom (departed early)		
FGP CG members	Nancy Woodruff (departed early)	Fred Jones	
City CG members	Karl Cozad		
County CG members	Elise Robacker		
Other attendees	Diane Conradi, Coordinator	Marty Zeller, by phone	Heidi Van Everen

1. Minutes – Motion to approved as presented. Diane to email digital copy.
2. Online Survey – 75 responses to date; good quality responses; thoughtful & thorough. Would like more participation though. Close date originally set for July 31, 2010; extended to Sept. 15, 2010. All members willing to send out requests to complete survey online (DRNC mailing lists, FWP request EA mailing lists & citizens advisory committee lists, County Foys to Blacktail contacts, and Whitefish Trail will resend again).

**<http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/Z2XW3ZV>.**

3. Recreational Use Liability (Diane update) – Review confirmed Rec. Use Liability statute protects land owner as long as ‘no valuable consideration’ is transferred (DNRC general rec. use permit excluded under statute). Obvious lack of clarity exists; statute defines what it is not, not what it is. Brennan’s Wave (Missoula – Clark Fork River) is a good example of a current DNRC land use license & model of Rec. Use Liability (contact, Kent Baker). Current public use of Brennan’s Wave relies on the rec. use liability statute; insurance coverage is required only for Special Events. Pete Costain (Flathead Fat Tire president) is researching general liability policy options (IMBA-style policy for free-ride activities) and looking to Idaho, Spokane, & Oregon as examples.

4. Land Exchange Possibility (Diane update) – Discussions w/ Tom Schulz and Mary Sexton will continue and ideas are being researched and discussed.
5. DNRC project to determine recreational lease values (Marty) – Draft RFP sent out Friday, comments received & emailed to Core Group, any additional responses/comments are needed this week. Updates will be sent to the Core as RFP proceeds and is finalized. Discussion ensued regarding assumptions, use preclusions, and lack of specificity; concern that RFP will be difficult to complete if definition is not provided. All recognize the evolutionary process & challenging assignment. Potential contractor with experience will need to ask questions, assumptions will need to be made to obtain any conclusions. Concern was expressed regarding method of determining contractor (50% preference based on price & only 15% based on experience). All agreed more emphasis needs to be put on quality & experience critical to develop a useful tool. Mike Collins will report back to the DNRC team.
6. Discussion on Key Functions and Funding Needs (Marty) – handout.

Key Functions - Marty developed 4 topics that we need to address. FRAMEWORK identified will help to discuss organizational options. Funding Needs – Marty was discouraged by some, encouraged by others to present this recognizing that the RFP will help to determine this value. All agreed it is a good internal working document, the actual numbers are somewhat meaningless, but magnitudes of scale are valuable and the details will come from the appraisal. All agreed this begins a framework for discussion with possible interested parties and is critical to formulating a strategy & game plan.

Next steps – Community capacity development & structure recommendations need to be addressed next. Discussion centered on determining potential organizational models incorporating a for-profit arm and non-profit arm. Diane & Marty will research potential models from other trail systems, conservation projects and will attempt to draw from a variety of information sources including the Chesapeake Bay Trust, the Columbia Basin Trust, considering the possible role of entities currently in place.

7. Review of Entity Description – review organizational models first.
8. Potential Transactions – need more definition before going public.

Meeting adjourned at 4:40pm. Next meeting will be in 2 weeks on August 11<sup>th</sup>, 2010, 3pm at Glacier Bank, Whitefish.